

are limited, and persons will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Any member of the public may file a written statement concerning the matters to be discussed with David Gaines, Superintendent.

Persons wishing further information concerning this meeting, or who wish to submit written statements may contact David Gaines, Superintendent, Long Distance Trails Group Office—Santa Fe, National Park Service, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0728, telephone 505/988-6888. Minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection at the office of the Superintendent, located in Room 205, Pinon Building, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Dated: March 12, 1998.

David M. Gaines,
Superintendent.

[FR Doc. 98-7600 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items from New Mexico in the Possession of the Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 43 CFR 10.10 (a)(3), of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of the Arizona State Museum which meet the definition of "object of cultural patrimony" under Section 2 of the Act.

The cultural items are: four carved wooden birds, four wooden snakes, four wooden god heads, four unpainted wooden rods, and a ceremonial screen. Together, these items are collectively referred to as *Na'at'oye jish*, Lightning Way paraphernalia.

In 1927 or 1928, these items were removed from a cave in the Lukachukai Mountains by John Hands during University of Arizona summer expedition surveys of the Vandal Cave area of the Lukachukai Mountains under the direction of Byron Cummings of the Arizona State Museum/Department of Archeology. In 1931, John Hands donated this Lightning Way *jish* to the Arizona State Museum.

Consultation evidence presented by representatives of the Navajo Nation indicate that the Lightning Way is one

of twelve major chants still performed in the Navajo Nation. Bundles for these Ways should only be in the possession of a qualified *Hataalii* (chanter, singer, or medicine person) capable of understanding the *jish*. In Navajo tradition, *jish* is only cared for or possess by a human being, it is not "property" capable of being "owned" in the Western meanings of the words.

Officials of the Arizona State Museum have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(4), these 16 cultural items have ongoing historical, traditional, and cultural importance central to the tribe itself, and could not have been alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual. Officials of the Arizona State Museum have also determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (e), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these items and the Navajo Nation.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Navajo Nation. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these objects should contact Dr. Gwinn Vivian, Acting Repatriation Coordinator, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721; telephone (520) 621-4500 before April 23, 1998. Repatriation of these objects to the Navajo Nation may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: March 18, 1998.

Veletta Canouts,

Acting Departmental Consulting
Archeologist,

Deputy Manager, Archeology and
Ethnography Program.

[FR Doc. 98-7581 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-F

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion for Native American Human Remains from Plymouth, MA in the Possession of Plimoth Plantation, Inc., Plymouth, MA

AGENCY: National Park Service

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given in accordance with provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 43 CFR 10.9, of the completion of an inventory of human remains from Plymouth, MA in the possession of the Plimoth Plantation, Inc., Plymouth, MA.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by Plimoth Plantation professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Wampanoag Confederation on behalf of the Gay Head Tribe of Wampanoag Indians, a Federally-recognized Indian tribe; and the Mashpee Wampanoag, the Assonet Wampanoag, two Indian groups.

Between 1936 and 1945, human remains representing one individual were recovered from the Brown site on the Eel River in Plymouth, MA as part of an amateur excavation/surface collection by Harry Hornblower II. In 1987, Mr. Hornblower's estate donated his collections from the Brown site to Plimoth Plantation. No known individual was identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

Historical documents from the 17th and early 18th centuries [including the 1606 Champlain Map of Port St. Louis (Plymouth)] indicate the Brown site is located within Wampanoag historic homelands and corresponds to Wampanoag settlements along the Eel River during this period. Cultural material recovered at this site, including ceramics, points, and a gun flint indicate continuous occupation from the late Woodland into the early contact period. Archeological and ethnographic sources further indicate continuities of material culture and language between 17th century Wampanoag of the Eel River area and tribe and communities represented by the Wampanoag Confederation.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of Plimoth Plantation, Inc. have determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (d)(1), the human remains listed above represent the physical remains of one individual of Native American ancestry. Officials of Plimoth Plantation, Inc. have also determined that, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.2 (e), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between these Native American human remains and the Wampanoag Confederation.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Wampanoag Confederation. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains should contact Karin Goldstein, Curator of Original Collections, Plimoth Plantation, P.O. Box 1620, Plymouth, MA 02362; telephone: (508) 746-1622, ext. 379, before April 23, 1998. Repatriation of the human remains to the Wampanoag Confederation may